

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/643,799	WU ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit

Nghia M. Doan

2825

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to application filed on 08/18/2003 and Applicants Amended filed on 01/27/2006.

2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 21 (renumbered).

3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____


VUTHE SIEK
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. Responsive to communication application 10/643,799 filed on 08/18/2003 and Applicants amended filed on 01/27/2006, claim 21 is pending.

Claims 1-20 have been canceled.

Claim 21 has been added.

2. The new drawing filed on 01/27/2006 for figures 1-3 are accepted.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claim 21 is allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art made of record does not teach or fairly suggest the computer-implemented method for generating a layout for integrated circuit comprising the inventive steps generating a layout based on a physical design of the integrated circuit; performing a first circuit performance analysis on the layout; incorporating manufacturing enhancements on the layout, the manufacturing enhancements including optical proximity correction; performing a second circuit performance analysis on the layout using the layout with the manufacturing enhancements incorporated therein to generate a taped-out layout of the integrated circuit; checking design-rules on the taped-out layout; modifying the taped-out layout by performing the manufacturing enhancements on the taped-out layout using at least in part results of the first circuit performance analysis; and performing a third circuit performance analysis on the modified taped-out layout with the manufacturing enhancements included therein to generate a final layout to be used in manufacturing of masks for fabrication of the integrated circuit.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO-892. Cote et al. (6,807,663) is closed to the applicant invention. Cote et al. disclose method performing OPC during the taped-out process and repeating structures circuit layout, but Cote et al. lacks to teach the step for modifying the taped-out layout using at least in part results of the first circuit performance analysis and the step performing analysis on the modified taped-out layout.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nghia M. Doan whose telephone number is 571-272-5973. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Chiang can be reached on 571-272-7483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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